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ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZDK REF ALLSTA SVCS PLS CLR LOGS
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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7642
INFO RUEHZH/HAITI COLLECTIVE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 1787
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0114
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1592
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 2357
RUEHMT/AMCONSUL MONTREAL 0256
RUEHQU/AMCONSUL QUEBEC 1015
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TREASURY FOR MAUREEN WAFER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/08/2018

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SUBJECT: HAITI ON RESOLVING KOSOVO'S STATUS

REF: STATE 1087

Classified By: Ambassador Janet A. Sanderson, Reasons 1.4 (b), (d)

¶1. Ambassador delivered reftel points to Foreign Minister Clerisme January 23. He promised to transmit the USG position to President Preval and Prime Minister Alexis.

¶2. Clerisme was aware of the basic elements of the Kosovo issue, conceded that Kosovo could not be brought back under Serbian rule, understood the need to resolve the Kosovo status question soon, but was unaware of reftel point that Kosovo would likely declare its independence early in 2008 and that the U.S. and many leading EU nations would then recognize Kosovo. Clerisme indicated concern about Russian resistance to Kosovo independence, about the position of China, and how Serbia might react to Kosovo's declaration of independence. Ambassador said there were no definitive answers to any of these questions, but that the Ahtissari plan's comprehensive framework for supervision of Kosovo independence and protection of the Serbian minority in Kosovo was the best formula for regional stability.

¶3. Clerisme's response was at best ambivalent. The Balkans are far from Haitian concerns. We predict that the GOH and President Preval will wait to see how the winds blow, in the Caribbean region and beyond, before coming to a decision on recognition.
SANDERSON